

May 12, 2014

Dear Roosevelt Senior High School community,

We are excited to announce an enhanced programmatic approach for Roosevelt, one that will build upon current programming and strengths, leverage new resources and partners, and take advantage of the upcoming modernization of the facility. Beginning with School Year 2015–16, **Roosevelt International High School will focus on international relations and provide all students with multiple pathways to success in college, career and life.** Roosevelt will remain a DCPS neighborhood high school. This memorandum provides an overview of the preliminary program design, which will be expanded and implemented through ongoing collaboration among Roosevelt, DCPS and a variety of partners.

International Relations Theme

Roosevelt International High School will integrate an international relations theme throughout the program and the facility. Students will graduate with the knowledge, skills and habits of mind necessary to succeed in the modern, global environment. Specific programmatic elements may include:

- **International Relations Curriculum:** Curriculum, instruction, and assessment will satisfy DCPS requirements and simultaneously integrate a focus on international relations. For example, students might explore the global shortage of water through science, history and English courses.
- **Dual Language (DL) Track:** Students with the requisite Spanish-language proficiency will be able to take a number of academic content courses taught in a Spanish immersion environment.
- **World Language Hub:** Beyond the DL courses for some students, all Roosevelt students will have the opportunity to study a variety of world languages in a setting designed to foster bilingualism. The building may even serve as a “hub” for students from other schools.
- **International Travel:** Roosevelt 11th graders will be encouraged to engage in international travel/service/exchange. The school will also be a natural host for exchange students.
- **Career & Technical Education (CTE) Programs:** CTE programs will be infused with international connections, including both international business & finance and international culinary arts.
- **Partnerships:** The school will leverage the international resources and expertise in Washington, DC as well as the increasingly diverse Ward 4 community. From government agencies to foreign embassies to local colleges with international relations programs, Roosevelt will benefit from strong, strategic and sustained partnerships.

Multiple Pathways

Roosevelt International will offer students multiple pathways to college and career success. Note that all pathways are flexible, with multiple on- and off-ramps.

- **Academic Courses:** All Roosevelt students will have access to the courses necessary to earn a DCPS high school diploma, the requirements for which are aligned with college preparedness. Additional courses will be offered as part of the International Studies theme, including new global studies courses and seminars and a wide variety of World Language courses. Although the

school will not require bilingualism as a graduation requirement, it will seek to incentivize students to become proficient in at least one world language.

- **Career & Technical Education:** High-quality CTE programs in business & finance and culinary arts will be available to all students. Like all DCPS CTE programs, these consist of 3- or 4-course sequences that (i) align with high-demand/high-wage occupations in DC; (ii) expose students to a continuum of work-based learning opportunities including internships; and (iii) lead to industry-recognized credentials, college credits or both.
- **Early College Program:** High-achieving students will have numerous opportunities to accelerate at Roosevelt. A range of early college experiences will include multiple AP courses and “dual credit” courses on college campuses that count for both college and DCPS high school credit.

We will begin discussing this vision for Roosevelt at the Ward 4 Education Alliance community meeting at Powell Elementary School on Wednesday, May 14 (6–8pm). We will ensure additional and ongoing opportunities for school and community engagement as we plan for the August 2015 opening of Roosevelt International High School.

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